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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 16 December 1968

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2. [REDACTED] Met with Mr. William Woodruff, Senate Appropriations Committee staff, and delivered to him for Senator Russell a notification of a release from the Agency reserve. Although not at all critical, Mr. Woodruff indicated that the notice of withdrawal was one for expenditures worthy of further discussion. It was suggested to Mr. Woodruff that we would be able to cover the matter in more detail in the meeting scheduled for Wednesday with him and Mr. Michaels.

Among other items, I briefed Mr. Woodruff with regard to the preliminary analysis of the 1969 Soviet budget and economic plan. Mr. Woodruff is appreciative for having this item brought to his attention and suggested that it would be well if the Agency would update the paper on the Soviet defense budget that had been previously provided for Senator Stennis' use. The Office of DD/I has been advised.

Confirmed with Mr. Woodruff the briefings and lunch for Wednesday, 9 a.m., here at the Agency.

Briefed Mr. Woodruff on the following items: Moscow ABM launch sites; Soviet forces remaining in Czechoslovakia; continuing pressure on the leadership of Czechoslovakia; the lowering of tensions in Western Europe; North Korea expanding UW forces; Chicom production of MIG 21's; and the Chicom strategic missile program.

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4. [redacted] Met with Mr. Garner J. Cline, House Immigration and Nationality Subcommittee, who advised that the arrangements made for Representative Peter Rodino's visit to RFE and RL were carried out like clockwork and were most enjoyable for Mr. Rodino and for the beneficiaries under the legislation sponsored by Mr. Rodino. Mr. Cline assured that more compliments will come from Mr. Rodino upon his return to the city.

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5. [redacted] Met with Mr. Robert Michaels, House Appropriations Committee, who had been away from the city for the last week on Committee business. I delivered to him for Chairman Mahon, two letters concerning release from the Agency reserve. The earlier letter concerning statutory increases was commented on by Mr. Michaels as being in accord with the Committee determination on this matter. Today's letter relating to certain expenses and related support costs was immediately questioned by Mr. Michaels. I related the background in only the most general terms and suggested that these items could be discussed in more depth in the meeting on Wednesday with Colonel White, Mr. Clarke, and [redacted] This is more than satisfactory to Mr. Michaels.

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I briefed Mr. Michaels on several items. Of particular interest to him were the preliminary analysis of the 1968-69 Soviet budget and the reduction from 16 to 8 Moscow ABM launch sites. Mr. Michaels will be interested in discussing the importance of these two items further when he meets with us on Wednesday. I also briefed Mr. Michaels on the following items: Soviet forces remaining in Czechoslovakia; continuing pressure on the leadership of Czechoslovakia; the lowering of tensions in Western Europe; North Korea expanding UW forces; Chicom production of MIG 21's; and the Chicom strategic missile program.

Mr. Michaels noted as we were parting, that a press item had been brought to his attention concerning recent Pravda statements taking the Chicoms to task on "collaboration with the United States" by their "handling of preliminary arrangements for the meeting of ambassadors on trade matters in Warsaw and the failure for the first time to demand withdrawal of the Sixth Fleet and other support for the Taiwan Government." Mr. Michaels would be interested in any further information available concerning a possible new emphasis in the Sino-Soviet split.

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